

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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March 5, 2020

The Honorable Ikaika Anderson
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Anderson and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Periodic Review of Boards and Commissions –
Oahu Historic Preservation Commission

This responds to Charter Question No. 12 requiring the periodic review of all City boards and commissions, regarding the Oahu Historic Preservation Commission.

The Oahu Historic Preservation Commission has never been constituted. The Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) supports historic preservation through special land use controls under zoning laws and regulations. DPP has long standing zoning regulations that protect the Chinatown district, and buildings within the Hawaii Capitol and Haleiwa districts – registered and eligible for registration on the register of historic places -- for consultation with DLNR before issuing permits. There is also a Design Advisory Committee which by ordinance, must include a representative from Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) which reviews major projects in the special districts.

Commission Purpose. Current provisions of Revised Ordinances of Honolulu governing the Oahu Historic Preservation are as follows

Sec. 3-10.1 Purpose and intent.

- (1) The council finds that preservation of historic properties enhances the educational, cultural, economic and general welfare of the county. It is deemed essential that the qualities relating to the history and culture of the City and County of Honolulu be preserved through comprehensive historic preservation planning and administration. Implementation of the HRS Chapter 6E on historic preservation, the Honolulu general plan and the adopted Oahu development plans provide the means to perpetuate the value of various cultures of which our community is comprised.

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- (2) It is the intent of this article to:
- (a) Protect and preserve historic properties and artifacts in the county and encourage, where appropriate, their special emphasis and attention to the cultural resources of the native Hawaiian people;
 - (b) Encourage the restoration, rehabilitation, and continued functional use of historic properties;
 - (c) Encourage the identification, preservation, maintenance, development, promotion and enhancement of those historic properties which represent or reflect distinctive elements of cultural, social, economic, political and architectural history, and to encourage the designation of historic properties, thereby ensuring that our cultural and historic heritage will be imparted to present and future generations of residents and visitors; and
 - (d) Formulate county-wide, comprehensive, historic preservation polices, programs, and plans.

Recommended Ordinance Changes. It is recommended that Chapter 3, Article 10, ROH, be removed as it is duplicative of the historic preservation responsibilities of the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD).

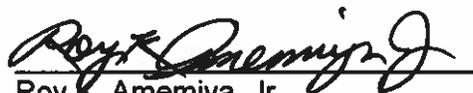
Thank you for the opportunity to provide input regarding this matter. Please contact me at 768-8000 should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,



Kathy K. Sokugawa
Acting Director

APPROVED:



Roy K. Amemiya, Jr.
Managing Director